

Albion

Annual Report of the Editor for 2001-2002

This report covers the publication of volume 33 for 2001 and the fiscal year July 1, 2001-June 30, 2002. *Albion* continues its role as a leading journal of scholarship and scholarly opinion about British studies, and it continues to develop its readership in the U.K. and Australasia. The latter conclusion is buttressed by the number of libraries in those places that subscribe and by the volume of anecdotal evidence that continues to come via comments in mail and email. We are glad to have this attention and to use it to promote knowledge of the NACBS as well.

I was saddened, like all of you, to learn last fall about the untimely death of Jack Cell, who had been a friend and supporter of this journal's work for over 18 years, during which time he was a member of our editorial board. We published a remembrance of Jack in issue number 4. Jack was always an inspirer of, and dogged promoter of, well-researched and well-written history.

As the NACBS executive committee knows, my term as editor of this journal will end in 2005. I look forward to working with whomever will become responsible for the journal during its transfer.

Our web site is functioning again (www.albion.appstate.edu) after a brief period of crashed links and non-working radio buttons. I am happy to report that all issues of the journal from volume 1 in 1969 through volume 33 for 2001 are indexed in the site and the full index (or individual issues) is searchable through the Google search engine. The online index corrects any errors that had crept into printed indexes in the fourth number of each volume. The site also has prominent links to NACBS and JBS and is used by quite a few potential reviewers who submit information on line. We do not publish the journal online, hence only the table of contents for recent issues appears in the site.

Article submissions in 2001 dropped to 48, but among these there were no frivolous or partially ready submissions. Nearly all were very solid scholarly works. Although we won't publish all of them, I think they will all ultimately be published.

Eleven articles were printed in volume 33, with all but two being authored by North American scholars. Of these articles one concerned the medieval period, three the early modern period, one the eighteenth century, three the nineteenth century, and one the twentieth century. Two of these articles addressed Celtic themes: one with feuding in the Scottish Kirk, the other with Celtic influences on imperial thought. Other articles addressed the history of medicine, political thought, religion and politics, and class and radicalism. We continue to be as catholic as possible in the disciplinary interests we publish. Last year I expressed a desire to publish more in legal history, and we have made progress with articles that will appear next year.

Book reviews continue to be a key feature of this journal's contribution. All our

reviews were published within two years of a book's publication, even when a book may have been published late in a year. Our reviews seem to be widely read and found useful. I think they are among the best published anywhere. Reviewers nearly always do what is fundamentally required in their reviews—say what the book is about and how it is researched and written, and assess its contribution to historical understanding. Most reviewers manage quite a bit more than this in their nearly 800+ words, which usually proves informative while generally being fair assessment. Over the last year there have been quite a few references to Albion reviews in other writings, not to mention their widespread citation in publisher's catalogues. We published 277 reviews of 286 books with an average word length of 857 each. There were thirty reviews of books on medieval topics, sixty-seven on early modern, thirty-five on eighteenth century, sixty-seven on nineteenth, fifty on twentieth, seventeen on Celtic history, and seven concerned with imperial topics. Our reviewer failure rate dipped slightly below last year's reported 4%.

Subscriptions and membership subscriptions remain healthy, with little change over last year, although there was a net drop of five foreign subscriptions. The subscription figures below are as of July 31, 2002.

NACBS member subscribers	831
Institutions U.S.A.	301
Institutions foreign	101
Gratis/Exchange	47
TOTAL	1,280

Our financial position remains steady. Our office has benefitted by the superb help of Patricia Quinn, who continues to manage the scheduling, correspondence, and business affairs very effectively. We also employ a graduate assistant for ten hours a week. Printing costs have remained about the same, but postage costs have risen considerably, especially for mailing review books and the journal. It is crucial to have reliable mail delivery, which for the most part is provided by the USPS. But for overseas mail we are pleased with the service of our bulk mail shipper, whose work continues to make our overseas claims nearly nothing. We spend a large amount mailing journals to late renewing or joining NACBS members. Nonetheless, they deserve a copy in the quickest manner possible, which we provide.

On the next page are the cash figures reflecting income and expenditure for the fiscal year. Due to the fiscal crisis that has hit the UNC system, the journal now pays for its graduate assistant instead of Appalachian's History Department. For nearly 20 years the department has underwritten our graduate assistance. For that support I am grateful, to say the least. But we were faced with losing a graduate assistantship, so I volunteered to pay so that would not happen. It's almost embarrassing to list the measly sum provided, but there are other benefits to the student, such as learning quite a bit about publishing and the academic field of British history. The NACBS monies include \$12,325 for previous year's issue, which were deposited after the end of last year's fiscal end of June 30.

July 1, 2001- June 30, 2002

Cash on Hand 7/1/01

\$33,113.72

Income:

Journal:

Subscriptions (inst.)	\$34,928.25
Other Income	853.73
Advt. Income	3,389.31
Interest Earned	1,668.97
SUBTOTAL	\$40,840.26

NACBS members	\$26,475.00
---------------	-------------

TOTAL INCOME	\$67,315.26
--------------	-------------

Expenses:

Printing	\$20,600.00
Postage	11,423.77
Salaries/Taxes	13,643.17
Grad. Asst.	6,000.00
Reassigned Time Purchase	6,000.00
Travel	3,171.25
Supplies	1,390.80
Data Processing	756.77
Subscriptions	476.31
Dues/Fees	758.05
Equipment	427.07
Promotion	1,170.45
Equip. Maintenance	618.65
Miscellaneous	42.43
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$66,478.72

Cash on Hand 6/30/2002

\$33,950.26

Submitted by

Michael J. Moore, Editor